

SENATE RESOLUTION 149

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Bob Newman, 2023
Community Award recipient of the John J.
Duncan Sr. Award for Senior Advocacy

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Bob Newman of Knox County, who was recently named the 2023 Community Award recipient of the John J. Duncan Sr. Award for Senior Advocacy; and

WHEREAS, the John J. Duncan Sr. Award for Senior Advocacy was created to honor those who steadfastly work to improve the lives of seniors in the Knoxville community, as the award's namesake did throughout his career; recipients are professionals and community members who have been nominated in recognition of their tireless efforts on behalf of seniors; and

WHEREAS, a native of Knoxville, Bob Newman began his career as a lineman for Bell Telephone Company in 1949, and in 1952, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving in Korea and earning a Bronze Star for perfecting the communication system of his Company; and

WHEREAS, upon his return to civilian life, Mr. Newman worked at Southern Bell in Knoxville and attended the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, he held many positions at Southern Bell and BellSouth, including operations manager and human resources staffing manager, and he was a prominent member of the Telephone Pioneers organization, serving as its environmental chairperson, vice president, and president; and

WHEREAS, a devout man of faith, Mr. Newman was very active in the Episcopal Church and participated on the Council, was assistant treasurer of the Diocese of East Tennessee, and served as a lector, lay person, chalice bearer, and vestry for many years; and

WHEREAS, he is also a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Kerbela Shrine temple, and as a Shriner, he transported children to Lexington, Kentucky, and Cincinnati, Ohio, hospitals for treatment; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from BellSouth in 1991, Mr. Newman worked with Long Term Care Insurance, the Better Business Bureau, Williamsburg Senior Living, and Homewatch Caregivers, and he was instrumental in the inception of the Knoxville Senior Networking Group, in addition to being very active in the senior community broadly; and

WHEREAS, Bob Newman has worked tirelessly to improve his community, and it is most fitting that he be honored; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we recognize and honor Bob Newman, 2023 Community Award recipient of the John J. Duncan Sr. Award for Senior Advocacy, extending our best wishes for his continued success as he compassionately and devotedly endeavors to serve others.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.